

ESWW 2026 in Italy

Italy's Bid to Host the 2026 Edition of the European Space Weather Week

The European Space Weather Week

The European Space Weather Week (ESWW) is a highly interdisciplinary international forum that gathers diverse research groups and technological stakeholders in Europe to work on all aspects of space weather and space climate. More specifically, during each edition of the ESWW, solar, heliophysics, and space scientists, engineers and technologists, satellite operators, power grid experts, specialists in communication, navigation, and aviation technologies, providers of space weather and space climate services, citizen scientists and practitioners with interest in science and technology, meet in a European city for one week to share and discuss the state-of-the-art concerning physical models and latest measurements of the active Sun and of its impact on the Earth environment, computational methods for space weather and space climate prediction and interpretation, technological solutions for space weather and space climate monitoring.

ESWW also welcomes end users, i.e., any group or organization that exploits space weather and space climate data and services in operational settings that include, by instance and not exhaustively, spacecraft design and operation, space- and ground-based telecommunication and navigation systems, aviation safety, power grid and power distribution, pipeline and railway networks, insurance issues, civil contingency planning, and, of course, solar, space, and geophysics.

For all these reasons, ESWW has become by far the main annual event in the European space weather and space climate calendar, and has grown into an international event with global attendance where to exchange knowledge and ideas, to discuss the latest discoveries on solar activity, on how space weather impacts the Earth environment on both the short and long term, and on how modern technologies can deal with space weather and its consequences.

After the birth, in 2022, of the European Space Weather and Space Climate Association (E-SWAN), the ESWW Program Committee has become one of the E-SWAN Committees, allowing a better framework within the European related community and a longer-term sustainability of the event.

Space Weather in Italy

The Italian space weather community has a well-established experience in both theoretical modeling and observation-based research, with main focus on solar physics, solar-terrestrial

relation, geomagnetism, ionosphere and upper atmosphere physics, planetary space weather, and galactic cosmic rays' physics. The activity of Italian research groups concerning the biological and technological impact of space weather has been notably increased and currently includes the study of Radio Frequency Interferences (RFIs) in satellite communications, the radiation risk assessment in the context of human space exploration, the analysis of electronics and system malfunctioning onboard space vessels due to space weather, and the geomagnetically induced currents (GICs).

Main recent and on-going research projects

In the last ten years, Italian research groups have been or are currently involved in international research projects focused on the scientific aspects of the related disciplines, or possible technological applications and services, or both. A non-exhaustive list of such projects involves:

- FP7 'Flare Chromospheres: Observations, models and archives (F-CHROMA)' (2013-2017), which was devoted to the analysis and interpretation of the ground- and space-based observational data of solar flares, to their testing against model predictions and to the development of an archive of both solar flare observations and models.
- FP7 'High Energy Solar Physics Data in Europe (HESPE)' (2010-2013), which included theoretical and computational activities with focus on mathematical techniques supporting an efficient extraction of information from experimental data.
- FP7 'Solar and Heliospheric Collisionless Kinetics (SHOCK)' (2012-2015) aimed to maximize the scientific return of space missions, through the identification of synergies between space plasma modelling and data analysis.
- FP7 'PLASMON: A new, ground-based data-assimilative modeling of the Earth's plasmasphere - a critical contribution to Radiation Belt modeling for Space Weather purposes' (2011-2014), which studied the interactions between the waves and radiation belt particles on the properties of the plasmasphere and the details of the involved physical mechanisms.
- FP7 'Environment for Human Exploration and RObotic Experimentation in Space (e-HEROES)' (2012-2015), which exploited data from European and international space missions to estimate and predict the threats that future exploration missions to planetary bodies may encounter.
- FP7 Near-Earth space data infrastructure for e-science (ESPAS)' (2011-2015), which supported the modelling and the prediction of the near-Earth space environment providing access to a large set of databases that have been developed for the needs of different Space Weather users.
- FP7 Neutron Monitor Data Base (NMDB)' (2008-2009), which pointed out the synergy between different science disciplines (e.g., solar physics; particle radiation physics) required for understanding the entire chain of a space weather phenomenon.
- FP7 'Space weather integrated forecasting framework (SWIFF)' (2011-2014), which devoted a significant effort in the development of the mathematical framework supporting space weather services.
- H2020 'Flare Likelihood And Region Eruption foreCASTing (FLARECAST)' (2015-2017), which introduced sophisticated and automated forecasting systems for solar flares based on artificial intelligence

- H2020 'Plasmasphere Ionosphere Thermosphere Integrated Research Environment and Access services: a Network of Research Facilities (PITHIA-NRF)' (2021-2024), which aims at building a European distributed network that integrates observing facilities, data processing tools and prediction models dedicated to ionosphere, thermosphere and plasmasphere research.
- HE 'Travelling Ionospheric Disturbances Forecasting System (T-FORS)', which aims at providing new models for interpreting observations of the solar corona, the interplanetary medium, the magnetosphere, the ionosphere and the atmosphere, and for issuing forecasts and warnings for TIDs several hours ahead.
- HE 'Active Region Classification and Flare Forecasting (ARCAFF)' (2022-2025), which will develop a new forecasting system using end-to-end deep learning models to improve traditional flare forecasting capabilities.
- The INGV 'MARGE - Mapping the geoelectromagnetic risk in Central Italy' project (2023-present), which aims at performing the first magnetotelluric extensive survey in central Italy, through dense electric and magnetic measurements across the land, in order to reconstruct the map of the electrical resistivity of the Earth's subsurface. This is the first fundamental step towards the modelling of the induced geoelectric field during space weather events in Italy and towards the assessment of Geomagnetically Induced Currents risks on the Italian infrastructures.

Italian space research has been and is also involved in operation-to-research activities that include the 'Ionosphere Prediction Service (IPS)' (2015-2017) within the framework of the Galileo program, the 'PECASUS - Pan-European Consortium for Aviation Space Weather User Services' consortium, which is one of the four Global Centers providing a Space Weather Service to the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), and the SWESNET project, aiming at operating and developing the ESA Space Weather Service Network.

Italy and space missions

Solar Orbiter is the first M class mission that has been selected with the ESA Cosmic Vision program for the time range 2015 - 2025. The payload of this cluster includes ten instruments designed to observe the Sun's surface and to study the high-speed solar wind variations. More specifically, the in-situ instruments will measure the solar wind plasma, the electromagnetic fields and the energetic particles close to the Sun; the remote sensing telescopes will provide images of the solar characteristics with unprecedented resolution, with the aim to investigate the cyclicity of the solar active regions and the flare occurrence. Within Solar Orbiter, Italy coordinates the effort of the METIS coronagraph able to obtain images of the solar corona at visible and ultraviolet wavelengths; realized the Data Processing Unit of the Solar Wind Analyzer (SWA); and is providing a major role in the generation of imaging, spectroscopy, and imaging spectroscopy algorithms within the ground software framework of the Spectrometer/Telescope for Imaging X-rays (STIX).

PROBA-3 is ESA's – and the world's – first precision formation flying mission, to be launched in 2024. A pair of satellites will fly together maintaining a fixed configuration as a 'large rigid structure' in space to prove formation flying technologies and rendezvous experiments. The two satellites will together form a 144-m long solar coronagraph – ASPIICS - to study the Sun's faint corona closer to the solar rim than has ever before been achieved. Italy's contributions

to ASPIICS include the key coronagraph-based, formation-flying metrology, coronal emission-lines filters and on-ground and in-flight calibrations. ASPIICS long-duration (hours) systematic observations of the low corona – normally accessible only during the brief (minutes) solar eclipses - will allow the study of the dynamics of the solar storms' initial phases, that are relevant for space weather monitoring.

The ESA-JAXA BepiColombo mission is the first European mission dedicated to Mercury, successfully launched on October 2018. It provides simultaneous measurements from two spacecraft, offering an unprecedented opportunity to investigate magnetospheric and exospheric dynamics at Mercury as well as their interactions with the solar wind, radiation, and interplanetary dust. The Italian Space Agency (ASI), on behalf of the Italian scientific community, provides a significant contribution to the mission, with 4 experiments out of 11 led by an Italian Principal Investigator: SIMBIO-SYS, an integrated system for surface observation and planet characterization with cameras (HRIC and STC) and a spectroscope (VIHI) led by INAF; ISA, the high-sensitivity accelerometer, developed by INAF; MORE, the radio science experiment based on the on-board Ka-Band Transponder (KaT), under the scientific coordinator of the Università di Roma 'La Sapienza'; SERENA, the experiment to study the particle environment through the two neutral particle analysers (NPAs) ELENA and STROFIO, and two ion spectrometers, MIPA and PICAM, under the scientific responsibility of INAF. Italian Co-investigators also participate in scientific teams relative to the SIXS (Solar Intensity X-ray and particle Spectrometer) and MPPE/MEA (Mercury Electron Analyser) experiments.

CSES (China Seismo Electromagnetic Satellite) is a mission of China National Space Administration and ASI. The satellites, 3-axis attitude stabilized, is based on the Chinese CAST2000 platform. CSES-01 is placed at a 98° Sun-synchronous circular orbit at an altitude of 500 km, since February 2018. A second satellite, CSES-02, will be launched by December 2024. The main objective of the mission is the monitoring of perturbations in the ionosphere, and magnetosphere and the Van Allen belts due to electromagnetic phenomena of natural and anthropogenic origin. CSES mission allows the study of the physical properties of the ionospheric plasma at the satellite altitude, and to characterize the ionosphere in quiet and disturbed conditions. Italy participates with several universities and research institutes. INFN and INAF are directly involved in instrumental development and test respectively. The High-Energy Particle Detector (HEPD), developed by the INFN and several Italian universities, detects high energy electrons, protons and light nuclei. INAF-IAPS developed the Electric Field Detector (EFD-02) for the second satellite, which have been specifically designed to allow the monitoring of electromagnetic fields (from DC to 3.5 MHz) for the study of ionospheric disturbances.

HENON HELiospheric pioNeer for sOLar and interplanetary threats defeNce) is a pathfinder mission that will explore for the first time ever the Distant Retrograde Orbits bringing a payload tailored for Space Weather operations and science. It foresees a cubesat embarking a radiation monitor as well as payload for magnetic field and plasma measurements. HENON is part of the ASI program ALCOR for cubesat is led by the Italian Company Argotec, which is the project prime, and under the scientific coordinator of INAF. HENON is currently in Phase B which is taking place in the context of the "General Support Technology Programme" (GSTP) of ESA.

Plasma Observatory is a M-class mission proposal, selected together with 4 other missions for the Phase 0 study, under the ESA "Call for a Medium-size and a Fast mission opportunity in ESA's Science Program -2021" (M7). The scientific theme of Plasma Observatory is "Unveiling plasma energization and energy transport in the near-Earth plasma environment through multiscale observations" and responds to the two themes that emerged during ESA's Voyage 2050: "Magnetospheric Systems" and "Plasma Cross-scale Coupling". Plasma Observatory is led by INAF-IAPS.

Ground-based infrastructures for space weather

The Italian 'Istituto Nazionale di Geofisica e Vulcanologia' (INGV) maintains and provide access to a number of facilities which are of uttermost importance in the framework of both space science research and space weather applications, including real-time monitoring and forecasting (eswua.ingv.it/, geomag.rm.ingv.it/). These include:

- Four geomagnetic observatories in Italy (Castello Tesino, L'Aquila, Duronia and Lampedusa) and two in Antarctica (Mario Zucchelli and Concordia stations, the latter within an Italian-French collaboration);
- Six ionosondes in Italy, Africa and South America (Roma and Gibilmanna);
- A worldwide network of 24 GNSS Ionospheric Scintillation Monitor Receivers
- A dense network of geodetic receivers over the Italian territory and Mediterranean area (RING - <http://ring.gm.ingv.it/>), exploited to monitor ionospheric Total Electron Content in real-time

The Italian 'Istituto Nazionale di Astrofisica' (INAF), participates in the international Super Dual Auroral Radar Network (SuperDARN), a network of HF coherent scatter radars which monitor in near real time the ionospheric convection pattern in both hemispheres, so providing an important nowcasting tool of the mid and high latitude ionospheric effects following space weather events; INAF maintains a pair of SuperDARN radars at Concordia station, in Antarctica.

In addition INAF manages the SVIRCO Observatory (Studio Variazioni Intensità Raggi Cosmici). SVIRCO has been carrying out continuous measurements of the nucleonic component of the secondary cosmic ray flux since 1957 and it is housed at the University of Roma Tre. It is the only structure of this kind in Italy and is part of the neutron monitors worldwide network. It is essential for studies in the field of solar and heliospheric physics, and Space Weather, such as the modulation of cosmic rays, solar variability, acceleration processes and forecasting of relativistic particles emitted by the Sun, which represent the most hazardous conditions of Space Weather. In this framework, the SVIRCO contributes to the "GLE alert" system used by ESA's "Space Situational Awareness Space Weather Service Network".

The University of L'Aquila, in cooperation with the Institut fuer Weltraumforschung in Graz (Austria) maintains the South European geomagnetic Array (SEGMA) for the geomagnetic field dynamic observations. The array is composed by four stations: Nagycenk (NCK, Hungary), Wolfgruben (WFB, Austria), Castello Tesino (CTS) and L'Aquila (AQU). In addition, it maintains two searchcoil magnetometers in Antarctica, at Mario Zucchelli and Concordia stations, for

the analysis of geomagnetic Ultra Low Frequency (ULF) waves directly connected to the solar wind-magnetosphere coupling.

As far as solar assets are concerned, full-disk telescopes in Catania (Equatorial spar, INAF-OACt), in Rome (PSPT, INAF-OAR), and in Naples (VAMOS, INAF-OACN) monitor the solar emissions in the optical bands. Soon they will be joined by the TSST (UNITOV) which will sport both an H-alpha filter and a Magneto-optical Potassium filter to measure the photospheric magnetic field. The so-called SunDish, the Italian Single-Dish Radio Telescope network (INAF-OACa, INAF-IRA Bologna and Noto, INAF-OATs, UNICA, UNITS, ASI, ASTRON), and the TSRS 2.0 and the Trieste Callisto System (both at INAF-OATs) observe instead the solar emission in the radio bands. As a further asset of interest for Solar Activity studies, it is worth mentioning that the Interferometric Bldimensional Spectrometer 2.0 (IBIS 2.0, INAF & UNITOV), a focal plane instrument to acquire high cadence spectropolarimetric images of the photosphere and chromosphere, is to be installed at the THEMIS telescope in the late Summer of 2024.

Next Generation EU

Within the framework of the Next Generation EU program, a national consortium including 13 Universities, 10 Research Institutes and Centers, and 10 Space Industries proposed the realization of the 'SPACE IT UP' research and technology hub to address the major challenges concerning the mankind's space domination for both downstream and upstream applications. One of the SPACE IT UP spokes will be entirely devoted to the protection of critical infrastructures and space exploration from space weather threats, and will foster synergies on space weather national activities between academy, industry, and research centers in such a way to significantly impact the Italian space sector on space weather in the next three years.

The Italian space weather research system

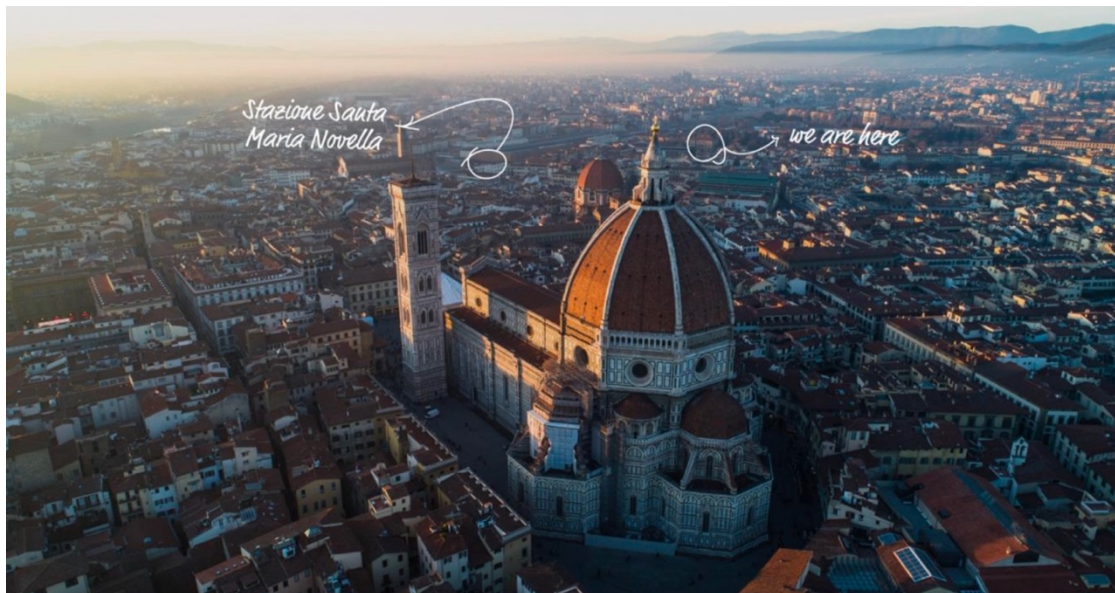
The Italian science and technology activities on space weather and space climate are conducted within research groups belonging to the Italian university system and to the main Public Research Institutions, and in R&D divisions of several SMEs and high-tech companies. Most of these scientists and technologists systematically collaborate in the framework of national and international initiatives. ASI and INAF support the realization of the 'ASI Space weather InfraStructure (ASPIS)' that is being implemented through the 'Comprehensive spAce wEather Studies for the ASPIS prototype Realization (CAESAR)' project, involving 10 Italian institutions, one SME, and about 100 scientists. Other initiatives are the design and realization of the 'Regional Space Weather Center (SWERTO)', the inclusion of forecasting algorithms into the ESA 'Space Weather European NETwork (SWENET)', the development of the 'Heliospheric Space Weather Center'. Further, since 2014 essentially all Italian space weather scientists, technologists, and stakeholders have been enlivening the 'Space Weather Italian Community (SWICo)', whose main objectives are to promote the national skills and competences concerning space weather and space climate at both a scientific and an operational level, and to connect the activity of the Italian research and technology groups and institutions to the most prominent networks at both a European and international level. SWICo is currently made of around 200 members belonging to the main Italian research institutes, to ASI, to several universities, and to the main industries and companies working in the diverse space sectors.

Additionally, one of the SWICo members is part of the Executive Board of E-SWAN, acting as its President until ESWW19 and as Vice-President until ESWW20.

SWICo is the institution promoting the Italian candidacy to host the 2026 edition of the European Space Weather Week.

ESWW 2026: The venue

'Firenze Fiera' is the company managing the Congress & Exhibition Center of Florence, located in the heart of the city a few minutes' walk from the Duomo, the Ponte Vecchio and all the major monuments, restaurants and hotels. Our venues are very easy to reach: Florence International Airport is only 4 km and this airport is connected with seven national airports and more than twenty European airports. Further, the structures candidate to host ESWW 2023 are a few minutes walking distance from the station of Santa Maria Novella, which can be reached by train within around two hours from the international airports of Roma Fiumicino, Milano Malpensa, and Milano Linate.



A view of Florence

Palazzo dei Congressi, the venue we propose to host ESWW 2026, is hosted inside the 19th-century Villa Vittoria. Surrounded by a century-old park, it exudes a boundless elegance and boasts state-of-the-art technologies. It can host a wide variety of congresses and events thanks to its meeting rooms: a 1,000-seat tiered Auditorium, surrounded by a foyer of nearly 1,000 m² suitable for catering, exhibition and poster sessions, together with several other meeting rooms among which the Onice for 70 people, the Limonaia in the Garden for 100 people and the Verde for 190 people seated in theatre-style.

Villa Vittoria was built between 1886 and 1891 by Gerolamo Passeri, a pupil of architect Giuseppe Poggi, and was commissioned by Marquis Massimiliano degli Strozzi. The beautiful Belvedere, a room with a 360° view of the city, was only added in 1925. A monumental staircase connects the ground floor to the main floor, leading to a beautiful gallery. All the

rooms maintain their original charm – lunette vaults on the ground floor, finely decorated coffered ceilings on the first floor. And then, mosaic floors in marble and terracotta, stone portals with marble inlays, elegant coat of arms, finely ornated gates in wrought iron, and precious painted polychrome glass windows. The name Villa Vittoria is due to Counts Contini-Bonacossi, who acquired it in 1931.

Villa Vittoria, hosting the Palazzo dei Congressi

In 1964, the villa was acquired by the local Tourist Board, which turned it into an International Congress Center on a project by architect Pierluigi Spadolini. It hosts various meeting rooms equipped with all the comforts and state-of-the-art facilities. Surrounded by a century-old park with rare and original trees – according to the original project by Poggi – Palazzo dei Congressi, along with the adjacent Limonaia, is located opposite Palazzo degli Affari. The large capacity of the Auditorium makes it the ideal location for congresses with many participants. At the same time, various set-up layouts allow to turn it into a perfect setting for smaller events, even for just 500 participants. It boasts the most state-of-the-art technologies to organize virtual events within an unparalleled scenario.



Villa Vittoria, hosting the Palazzo dei Congressi



The Auditorium

ESWW 2026: The organization

ESWW 2026 will rely on the ESWW Program Committee (PC), a National Organizing Committee and a Local Organizing Committee (LOC).

The ESWW-PC bylaws, available in the E-SWAN website (<https://eswan.eu/index.php/about-e-swan/statutes-and-bylaws>), define the role and duties of the PC. These include, but are not limited to, the decisions on session types, content and the organization of the meeting, delegating coordination and composition to the LOC as required. It liaises with the LOC and NOC to ensure a successful implementation and delivery of the meeting. The NOC will be responsible to provide support to the PC and provide further support to in the interaction between LOC and PC.

The LOC will be responsible for

- The setting of the conference dates and fees (in collaboration with PC and NOC).
- The verification that meeting rooms and corresponding technical support are up and running.
- The distribution of announcements (in collaboration with PC and NOC).
- The chase for possible support funding other than the ones provided by the conference fees, and for possible sponsorships.
- The organization of all registration and administrative details.
- The implementation of general 'running around' and problem-solving aspects at the time of the meeting.
- The realization of post-meeting clean-up activities.

ESWW 2026 will host several session types: Plenary Sessions, Parallel Space Weather Research Sessions, Parallel 100% Community-Driven Sessions. Another important part of ESWW 2026 will be the Topical Discussion Meetings (TDMs), which will cover topics of interest and debated by the whole space weather community. The call for these meetings will open later than the Call for Plenary and Parallel Sessions. ESWW 2026 will also host the ordinary General Assembly meeting of E-SWAN and possible satellite events organized before or after the event (e.g., Mini-ISWAT, E-SWAN SWx School and E-SWAN Sustainability Workshop as in the 2023 edition). ESWW 2026 will also host the Space Weather Fair.

Plenary Sessions

The ESWW plenary sessions will form a key component of the conference. They will be designed to be open to all attendees and therefore will represent topics that are of interest to the wider space weather community. The plenary sessions will be selected by the PC after the deadline of the Call for Plenary and Parallel Sessions. The conveners of the chosen sessions will be notified, followed by the opening of abstract submission for Sessions.

Parallel Space Weather Research (SWR) Sessions

The Space Weather Research (SWR) sessions will include topics spanning the common themes of the ESWW, together with highly interdisciplinary titles. The SWR sessions will cover around 70% of the time reserved for parallel sessions.

Parallel 100% Community-Driven Sessions (100CD)

The 100% Community-Driven (100CD) sessions will include topics provided by conveners and intended to focus on topics that have specific relevance in that moment, connect themes in ways not foreseen in that year's SWR sessions and possibly different from parallel sessions in previous years. The 100CD sessions will cover the remaining 30% of the time reserved for parallel sessions.

Topical Discussion Meetings (TDMs)

Topical Discussion Meetings (TDMs) will aim to inspire discussions about the newest insights in space weather, the challenges and threats that space weather can cause, emerging new science, and interdisciplinary connections. A TDM will be an around one-hour informal meeting with neither abstract submission nor poster contribution. Conveners will be responsible for promoting their TDM and may provide a single-slide/small poster to introduce it, give the background of its relevance, what the TDM expects to achieve, and also who the designated topic Introducers will be. All TDM material will be uploaded to the ESWW 2026 website to be made publicly available.

Well in advance with respect to the beginning of the meeting, the NOC might discuss with the PC the possibility to characterize ESWW 2026 with a specific 'focus theme' that would represent a science and technology trait d'union across the whole conference program.

Comments on the Statement of Compliance

Venue

As described above, the venue for ESWW 2026 has been clearly identified in Villa Vittoria, Florence. This venue hosts the Palazzo dei Congressi, containing, in the same site:

- The Auditorium for 1,000 participants maximum, which will be used for plenary sessions and medal presentations.
- 3 lecture rooms (1 for 70, 1 for 100, 1 for 190 participants) for parallel sessions.
- 3 rooms (40 participants each) for TDMs.
- 2 smaller rooms for quiet working and impromptu meetings.
- An area for 200 posters that can be accommodated simultaneously.
- An area for the ESWW fair large enough to contain 20 stands.

Appropriate AV equipment will be available in the Auditorium and in all rooms and a technical support will be ensured throughout the venue and for the whole duration of the event (as foreseen in the budget). The venue, rooms and bathrooms are wheelchair accessible. Finally,

it will be possible to host ESWW satellites events, like the E-SWAN space weather school in the days preceding the event at the Department of Physics, Università di Firenze.

The ESWW 2026 organization will pay specific attention to the implementation of strategies for the maximization of eco-sustainability of all conference's initiatives and to issues concerning diversity, accessibility, and inclusion.

Locality

Palazzo dei Congressi is just 4 km far from the Florence International Airport and less than 10 minutes walking from the Florence main station of Santa Maria Novella, which is one of the Italian hubs for the high-speed railway network (Freccia Rossa). The area is surrounded by a notable number of hotels and accommodation solutions for all kinds of prices; further, meal options are the ones typical of a cultural capital at international level. It is estimated that, for this kind of events, Florence is able to increase the attraction capability for more than 20% with respect to other less renowned locations.

Personnel

The organization team for ESWW 2026 will involve the PC, the NOC, and the LOC, and the team setup by 'Firenze Fiera' for the support to the event organization within the chosen venue. 'Firenze Fiera' has a well-established experience in the organization of this kind of events, several times in collaboration with scientists and administrative personnel of the Università di Firenze and of the 'Osservatorio di Arcetri'. Therefore, the LOC will include members of these two local research institutions. Further, the NOC will be composed by Italian space weather scientists and technologists with a proven track record of experiences in the scientific organization of international events concerning space weather and space science. Specifically, the choice of the NOC members will account for their proven experience to collaborate within the framework of dissemination programs such as the meetings of the Italian 'Solar and Heliospheric Community' (SoHe meetings), the meetings of the 'Space Weather Italian Community' (SWICo meetings), the NMDB meetings, the 27th 'European Cosmic Ray Symposium' in 2022, the 2023 ESO 'Spectral Fidelity Meeting', the 2022 XIV 'Italian Meeting on Active Galactic Nuclei'. More than this, in the case of ESWW 2026 the NOC and the LOC will promote the support of PhD students and post-doc researchers from Italian scientific institutions (ASI, CNR, INAF, INFN, INGV, ICTP, and several Italian universities), who will bring enthusiasm and empathy to the community during the event.

Part of the budget for the organization of ESWW 2026 will be used to support all technical needs, including the setup of the conference web site, which will contain:

- The 'home' page, including statements about sustainability, code of conduct, and privacy issues, and a summary of past editions.
- The 'committees' page, describing the composition of the LOC, NOC, and PC.
- The 'program' page, containing timeline and schedule of the conference, and a description of previous satellite events.
- The 'abstract submission' page, including the 'call for abstract', the conveners' account pages, and guidelines for the submission.

- The 'registration and open calls' page, with the registration instructions and the call for medal nomination.
- The 'partnership' page, devoted to sponsorships and stakeholders.
- The 'venue' page, accounting for all accommodation issues and instructions, and containing information about the location.
- The 'contacts' page, with useful email addresses, phone numbers, and URLs.
- The 'login' page, allowing for registration and abstracts' submission.

The realization of this web site will be outsourced to a web agency with notable experience in this field, which, however, will work in systematic collaboration with the LOC, NOC, and PC members.

The social program will include a welcome reception, which will take place at Villa Vittoria, and a conference dinner, which will be organized in one of the numerous beautiful venues in Florence. Further, the LOC will involve young students and post-doc scholars in the organization of activities promoting the social interaction among participants. If the financial support is sufficient, the LOC will promote the realization of children day care activities.

Finally, it is important to notice that the aim of ESWW 2026 will be to involve at a very wide level the Italian research and technology system in the design and organization of this event. Specifically, the aim of this effort will be to promote the participation of scientists and technologists from the public research institutions (Agenzia Spaziale Italiana - ASI, Consiglio Nazionale delle Ricerche - CNR, Istituto Nazionale di Astrofisica - INAF, Istituto Nazionale di Fisica Nucleare - INFN, Istituto Nazionale di Geofisica e Vulcanologia - INGV, International Center for Theoretical Physics - ICTP), from the system of Italian public universities, from Italian high-tech start-ups, SMEs and companies, as a comprehensive effort for the dissemination of the main accomplishments in the European space weather and for increasing the profile of ESWW even outside the space weather community.

Budget

The scenario we hope for foresees a totally in presence ESWW 2026. Indeed, in presence meeting are incredibly more effective than on-line participation for fostering new ideas, promoting connections among scientists, improving the development of new technologies. However, if necessary, ESWW 2026 will turn into a hybrid modality, whereby remote participation will be possible. Therefore, we describe below a tentative plan for the participation fees and expenses that includes on-line participation. Conference fees have been evaluated to be in line with those of the recent ESWWs. We also point out that request of support to the E-SWAN Executive Board is foreseen to fund participants to ESWW and the E-SWAN-related satellite events, with a particular regard to participants from the DAC-listed countries.

Palazzo dei Congressi for 5 days: 55000 euro

- Auditorium up to 1000 seats
- n. 1 Passo Perduto for exhibition area - 40% discount
- n. 1 Passo Perduto for catering area - 40% discount
- Verde Room up to 190 seats
- Limonaia up to 100 seats
- Onice Room up to 70 seats
- Ballatoi for poster area - complimentary
- Logistic services
- Wifi connection

Audiovisual equipments: 40000 euro

- Basic AV equipment in all meeting rooms
- Slide preview equipment
- Technical assistance for all rooms and slide preview

Catering and social events: 80000 euro

- Coffee breaks (2xday)
- Welcome cocktail
- Social dinner

Total cost: 175000 euro

Incomes:

- | | |
|-------------------------------|----------|
| • Regular early in person: | 350 euro |
| • Regular early on-line: | 180 euro |
| • Student early in person: | 180 euro |
| • Student early on-line: | 100 euro |
| • Regular standard in person: | 480 euro |
| • Regular standard on-line: | 220 euro |
| • Student standard in person: | 220 euro |
| • Student standard on-line: | 140 euro |
| • Regular late in person: | 550 euro |
| • Regular late on-line: | 320 euro |
| • Student late in person: | 320 euro |
| • Student late on-line: | 230 euro |

Other incomes will be provided by sponsorships from organizations and industries working in the space sectors (the different fee levels will be considered), and by possible liberal contributions from Italian research and academic institutions. Assuming the participation of 500-600 conveners, we foresee that the overall budget balance will be fully balanced.